[25th March 1953

Reading rooms in Rural Welfare areas, Tiruvallur taluk.

* 161 *Q.*—Sri M. DHARMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of reading rooms constructed in the selected areas of Tiruvallur taluk, under Rural Welfare Scheme in 1952; and

(*b*) of these how many were constructed in cheries and how many in the villages?

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—" (*a*) Twenty-eight reading rooms were constructed in the Rural Welfare areas in Tiruvallur taluk; and

" (*b*) out of the 28 reading rooms, one was constructed in Tirur Harijan Cheri and the rest in calmer places in the villages."

Sri M. DHARMALINGAM:—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister whether it is the fundamental principle or the intention of the Government that all the reading rooms except one must be constructed in the village itself or in the manner explained by the Hon. Minister when Harijans are badly in need of such facilities which are indispensable? "

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO:—" It is certainly not the intention of the Government. The maximum number of wells under Rural Welfare Scheme and bath rooms have been provided to Harijans at their quarters. The reading rooms, libraries, community halls, road dams, latrines and bath rooms that are constructed in the villages are being used commonly by the Harijans and the Caste Hindus without any distinction."

Local Fund Dispensary, Arecode, Malabar.

* 162 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the only dispensary at Arecode, Malabar, is going to be closed soon and if so, why?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY:—" The Local Fund Dispensary at Arecode is not going to be closed since a doctor has been appointed by the President, District Board, Malabar, and the doctor is expected to join duty at an early date."

Special Officer for land acquisition work.

* 163 *Q.*—Sri A. RATHINAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a separate land acquisition officer has been appointed by the Government to work under the Harijan Welfare Department as recommended by the Harijan Welfare Committee at page 32 of their report; and

(*b*) if not, why?